



## **Yuma Regional Communications System Council**

Yuma Regional Communications System - Council Meeting of August 12, 2021

### Item 1 – Call to Order and Introductions – 9:00 AM

Chairman Leon Wilmot called the meeting to order

Council Members in attendance included:

Leon Wilmot, Yuma County Sheriff  
Eddie Carrera, Project Manager YRCS  
Paul DeAnda, Somerton/Cocopah Fire  
Russell Hartley proxy for Tony Badilla  
Angel Ramirez, San Luis Fire  
Mark Rivera, Wellton Fire

Guests in Attendance:

Heather Pyeatt-Morris, City of Yuma  
Stephen Suho, Arizona Western College  
Robert Torrez, Yuma County Adult Probation  
David Rodriguez, Wellton PD  
Alan Guevara, San Luis PD  
Steve Legros, City of Yuma  
Karla Young, YRCS

Louie Carlos, City of Somerton  
Rifle Orduno, City of Yuma  
Lourdes Pullen, City of Yuma  
Lt. N. Reynoso, San Luis PD  
Dustin Fields, City of Yuma  
Mario Rosas, Yuma County  
Louise Hennings, YCSO

### Item 2 — Minutes of the June 3, 2021 YRCS Quarterly Meeting

Sheriff Leon Wilmot

\*\*No quorum for vote\*\*

### Item 3 – YRCS FY20-21 Quarter 3 Aging Report Status

Karla Young

- We have closed better than we ever have. The only item that was outstanding at the close of the quarter was Martinez Lake and that has been satisfied.  
Paul DeAnda: What is the target we want to hit for our funds.  
Eddie Carrera: As much as we can. They agreed about 6 million.
- The July invoices will be sent out, some as soon as today.

### Item 4 — YRCS Quarterly Updates of Activities

Eddie Carrera

#### **YRCS Financial Report**

YRCS FY 20-21 Surplus / Deficit Summary 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter:

Radio System, PS Software System, 911 Administration, and Summary

- Refer to the meeting packet for the income and expense totals for the Radio System, PS Software System, and 911 Administration information.

YRCS FY 20-21 Quarterly Billing:

- Billing for radio parts used and factory radio repairs went out July 26, 2021 for all agencies.

#### **YRCS Radio Stats**

#### YRCS Stats: Radios on the System:

- YRCS – 2659 radios (increase of 0)
- DPS/ADOT – 6135 radios (increase of 0)
- Interop – 1106 radios (increase of 0)
- Total Radios: 9900 with a capacity of 10,000

#### New YRCS Users for this quarter:

- No new users

#### YRCS Activities

##### PS Regional Radio Network Upgrade:

- The entire upgrade is completed.
- There are no problems other than the interference from Mexico, which has been mitigated.

Russ Hartley: Eddie do you expect Mexico to be a problem in the future?

Eddie Carrera: The problem is that Mexico is not following the same treaty that the US adopted. Consequently, their modulation is different from ours. This is the first of 5 upgrades.

Leon Wilmot: Are you talking about First Net?

Eddie Carrera: Yes, but they are not ready. Probably a couple years out to develop a push to talk that we are used to.

Leon Wilmot: We have been testing First Net cellular, and it is not any better than Verizon on the South part of the county. 911 goes straight to Mexico.

Eddie Carrera: They do not have the coverage. We will not promote it. They are supposed to put a cell site at the prison at the US 195. It has not been done due to COVID. Another tower will be added at Cocopah PD. Some rural areas are not covered.

Paul DeAnda: We have tested the entire area and we have complete coverage.

Leon Wilmot: Mentioned there is issues with coverage as far as Morelos Dam and about 12 miles out of the Foothills there was no service.

Alan Guevara: On the First Net, we are trying to mitigate something for another tower. We are building a sub-station at Avenue F and we are thinking they are going to lease a section of the property to put an antenna there.

Eddie Carrera: I told them there is already a tower there to use if they want. It is right before the POE. One is smaller and the other is 140'.

##### CBSCN Cross Border Communication:

- Meetings with Feds and discussed minor changes to agreement. Still no major movement.

##### Tyler Connect 2021:

- Annual user conference by Tyler on April 27-29.
- After attending several sessions, related to Enterprise Records, it was determined they are not ready.

##### Central Square Demo:

- Web demo of Central Square demo on June 8.

##### LaPaz County Fire Chief's Meeting:

- Attended meeting on June 23 at Quartzite FD.

##### Mark 43 Demo:

- This is another CAD company that wanted to do a demo.
- Attended a web demo on June 30.
- City of Scottsdale is using this. Waiting to see what they get to look at it closely and how it works.

#### YRCS Radio Projects

##### Projects completed:

- SLPS New Console Furniture installation was completed back in June.
- SLPS YRCS UPS Reconfiguration. The 911 fund actually paid for San Luis's UPS reconfiguration and upgrade. There are two UPS's that are in San Luis that are being used for the YRCS network configuration in the back.
- 4E PS was completed back in May. After five years of going back and forth, we finally got it up. Come November we will be repurposing some of the old microwaves and at that point, we will break the link that goes from Friendship to

9E.

#### Projects in Process:

- Annual preventative maintenance was on hold. Rifle will be getting in contact with some of agencies to schedule maintenance.
- CBSCN, we are still waiting on the Feds to give us the green light.
- SLPS addition of 4<sup>th</sup> Radio Console will be finished up today or tomorrow.
- CritPD New Console Furniture has been installed. There was a complete remodel of the whole facility.

#### Projects on Hold:

- Microwave between 6E and YCPW is still on hold.
- LPSO Salome Tower Site Relocation. We received an email from them two weeks ago saying they are ready to bring this project to life.
- MLFD Tower
- MLFD RF Site. There is a new Chief so both projects for MLFD were put on hold.

### **YRCS PSSS Projects**

#### Projects Completed:

- None

#### Projects in Process:

- PSSS Enterprise CAD Upgrade is still in process due to constant new releases.
- "Establish a Cyber Security Program for City of Yuma-YRCS" was a grant program that has been completed.

#### Projects on Hold:

- Brazos E-Ticketing IOS Modification of SLPD. Alan said the printers are ready and just waiting for the go on the app. and get them downloaded on the cellphones. They said 3-6 months and it has been three months already.

### **YRCS 911 Projects**

#### Projects in Process – Heather Pyeatt-Morris

- School Alert Project has not moved forward. The computers were acquired and worked on by the City of Yuma, but there was an issue with Crane's network or something with the firewall.
- In May the annual training event was held where dispatchers from around the county for a day of training. All agencies were able to participate except for one. Eighty people that attended in the three days. Two of those days were specifically for the dispatchers and the third day was for the supervisors.
- The state finished their RFP process for the new 911 system and the call handling equipment and network. The contracts were signed five years ago in February for the Somerton installation. The contracts are coming up for expiration, and the existing manage services contract that we were on through the state has expired so they had to go to RFP. There are some significant changes with it. The current system we have, the network and the call handling is through Lumen, all bundled into one contract. With the new RFP they separated the network and the call handling equipment, and the new vendor for the network is Comtech, so they will be building a whole new 911 network in the state of Arizona and the Lumen one will be disabled. For the call handling side of it, they narrowed it down to five vendors offering eight separate call-handling products from on premise to cloud based. Our Vyper system that we have now is in that. We have actually three options from vendors for the Vyper system but we have demos for the others so we can see what is out there before we decide to stay with the Vyper equipment. The options are Vesta, Vyper, Atos, Omni and NGA911. There is three offerings of Vyper, 2 offerings of Vesta, 3 different vendors, but those are the five actual call handling systems they are offering.

Eddie Carrera: Vesta is still Motorola right?

Heather: Yes

Eddie Carrera: I was told they don't have support.

Heather: So, one of the concerns for us here is having technical support, and right now Lumen provides us with technical support in the fact that we have a tech locally. If we stay with Vyper, we could go through either AT&T, Lumen or Intrado Direct, which is the manufacturer of our call-handling system Vyper. Intrado has some close resources, about two hours away from us, and they have some pretty good remote support. So, that's another option. We have to evaluate what Lumen, AT&T and Intrado all bring to the table to see which one will work best for us. However, we have to go through all the demos, vendor meetings and stuff and those are getting ready to start

soon.

As far as all the replacements, the goal is to have the network up by January 2022, and they will start moving over the frontier agencies because they are in a worse situation than the rest of the state. Along with that RFP process, the state finished their budget process and we got an extra \$190,000.00 this year for some projects, which includes a GIS support contract. Emergency alerting, because we don't have emergency alerting outside the county emergency management for the agencies. They gave us an award amount to allow the 911 office to procure something that the agencies could use through their PSAP. We are working on contacting vendors right now. They also awarded a language translation supplement. If an agency already has a language translation company that they are using, they could seek reimbursement through it. They awarded all three existing positions for San Luis in our budget, but they did not cover the fourth position that San Luis was requesting. They are hoping with these new contracts on the RFP that the fourth position is cost effective enough to be included in it. They seem to think the cost is going to cover it.

Eddie Carrera: Is there any plans available to upgrading log-in recorders or adding channels or anything like that?

Heather: We requested it, but there were a few line items that they only awarded partial amounts on, and I haven't seen the actual printout yet. We asked for \$1.2 million, but they awarded \$853,000.00. We are the only region that got an additional bump on requested items this year because the other agencies submitted their extra items.

Eddie Carrera: What can you fund with that money?

Heather: We will continue to fund the call-handling equipment and the network. We have the GIS support line items, the emergency alerting, the language translation, and others. I believe there is a UPS replacement portion in there. I would have to look a bit deeper into the final award once it's released. We have to wait for the council to approve the grant agreement before we see the final detail list.

Eddie Carrera: Somerton got a new UPS, and the ones in San Luis have been refurbished. Not sure if the Sheriff's Office needs a new UPS, but the City of Yuma is looking for a new UPS.

Heather: I put in a pretty significant amount for UPS's, but what they awarded on it, from what I recall, was only the percentage that would cover the 911 of it.

The City of Yuma has a console replacement coming up this year, so they will be replacing all 12 of their positions with new furniture.

Eddie Carrera: So will 911 cover the installation cost?

Heather: It depends if they are able to time their installation with their equipment replacement, then it won't cost anything. However, their contract expires in April, so we have to line it up. If they move faster than that, if they do, there will be a small cost.

Last year the state brought in a product called Rapid Deploy into the dispatch centers that allows remote reporting to the state of statistics from the 911 system. They installed a "share device" in the backroom of all the PSAP's, and when they installed those share devices, we requested enough connections for them to be able to get the ally to CAD, ally to recorders and stuff. But then after they installed it, we found out that it wasn't quite enough so we are working with LUMEN to get some additional share devices. We have to coordinate between AT&T and LUMEN. There is no cost to the agencies.

Eddie mentioned the flooding at City Hall and how it's effecting finance. It also effected the dispatch backup center. We are not sure of the full extent of the damage, but it is out of service for right now.

Lastly, through the state, one of the things they are working on, the Legislative session that starts in January, they want to approach with the First Responder reclassification and potentially the tax increase. They started a state advisory board. Representatives from around the state to represent on a 911 advisory board to meet and discuss those things and prepare presentations as needed. I am on the state advisory board; we have not had our first meeting yet.

#### Item 5 — Radio System Upgrade Update

Eddie Carrera

#### **Radio System Upgrade**

- We are done with the upgrade. The configuration was the only problem. There were only two outages, which lasted 5 seconds. Year 4 we will be looking at the possibility of a re-upgrade or we just cancel the contract, because we can do that at the second year of the contract. It depends on what the state is going to do and where First Net is.

#### Item 6 – PSSS Upgrade Update

PSSS Upgrade Progress:

- Setup demos with vendors Mark 43 and Central Square. There is not a lot of movement on the project right now. We are scheduled for an upgrade coming up in August for the test site, moving over to 2021, the new platform. If all goes well with the tests, we will go live in October. Our contract will only have about 2 ½ years left on it. This is a perfect time to start looking at we want to do. Replace our CAD or stay with New World or Tyler at this point. I reached out to New World and told them we were looking at other vendors. They will be here in September to give me their quote for a cloud solution. We will continue to look at other vendors. We have created a needs list to send out to potential vendors. Once we find vendors that can meet these needs, we will then talk about pricing (new system vs staying with Tyler).
- We have seen Mark 43 onsite through the City of Scottsdale. Central Square has product in Arizona at this time at the Prescott Valley Consortium. Another company that reached out to us is Capers. They sold a system up in Bullhead, and they actually sold to Kingman, but Kingman took it out and went to Spillman. Spillman is another company that will be considered.
- We are also looking at the fire department going with a different product.

Item 7 – Call to the Public

None noted

Item 8 – Adjourn

Chairman Wilmot called the meeting adjourned at 10:03 AM.